

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising;

a detection device configured to detect a type of a sheet based on an amount of light reflected by a surface of the sheet, the detection device disposed in a side fence of a sheet feeding tray, the detection device further configured to detect an absence of sheets in the sheet feeding tray below an opening formed in a guide plate configured to guide the sheet during conveyance of the sheet;

an image forming device configured to form an image on the sheet and

a controller configured to control the image forming device not to ~~form the image on~~ feed the sheet from the sheet feeding tray according to a detection result of the detection device.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a detection device configured to detect a type of a sheet based on an amount of light reflected by a surface of the sheet, the detection device disposed ~~below an opening formed in a guide plate configured to guide the sheet during conveyance of the sheet~~ in a side fence of a sheet feeding tray, the detection device further configured to detect an absence of sheets in the sheet feeding tray;

an image forming device configured to form an image on the sheet;

a fixing device configured to fix the image on the sheet;

a sheet conveying device configured to convey the sheet to the fixing device; and

a controller configured to control the conveying device not to convey the sheet to the fixing device according to a detection result of the detection device.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A method of forming an image, comprising:

providing a detection device ~~below an opening formed in a guide plate configured to guide the sheet during conveyance of the sheet in a side fence of a sheet feeding tray, the~~ detection device further configured to detect an absence of sheets in the sheet feeding tray, and the detection device configured to detect a type of a sheet based on an amount of light reflected by a surface of the sheet;

providing an image forming device configured to form an image on the sheet; and

controlling the image forming device not to feed form the image on the sheet from the sheet feeding tray according to a detection result of the detection device.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A method of forming an image, comprising:

providing a detection device ~~below an opening formed in a guide plate configured to guide the sheet during conveyance of the sheet in a side fence of a sheet feeding tray, the~~ detection device further configured to detect an absence of sheets in the sheet feeding tray, and the detection device configured to detect a type of a sheet based on an amount of light reflected by a surface of the sheet;

providing an image forming device configured to form an image on the sheet based on an amount of light reflected by the sheet;

providing a fixing device configured to fix the image on the sheet;

providing a sheet conveying device configured to convey the sheet to the fixing device; and

controlling the conveying device not to convey the sheet to the fixing device according to a detection result of the detection device.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the detection device is configured to calculate a reflectivity of the sheet from the detected amount of light reflected by the surface of the sheet.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:

a memory section configured to store a relationship between the reflectivity of the sheet and the type of the sheet.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the detecting device is configured to determine the type of the sheet by comparing the reflectivity of the sheet and the stored relationship.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the detecting device is configured to determine that the type of the sheet is at least one of a coated sheet, a film sheet, and a recycled sheet.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the detection device is configured to indicate that the type of the sheet does not correspond to a desired type of the sheet.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the detection device is configured to calculate a reflectivity of the sheet from the detected amount of light reflected by the surface of the sheet.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising:

a memory section configured to store a relationship between the reflectivity of the sheet and the type of the sheet.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the detecting device is configured to determine the type of the sheet by comparing the reflectivity of the sheet and the stored relationship.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the detecting device is configured to determine that the type of the sheet is at least one of a coated sheet, a film sheet, and a recycled sheet.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the detection device is configured to indicate that the type of the sheet does not correspond to a desired type of the sheet.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The method of forming an image according to claim 3, wherein the detection device is configured to calculate a reflectivity of the sheet from the detected amount of light reflected by the surface of the sheet.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The method of forming an image according to claim 15, further comprising:

providing a memory section configured to store a relationship between the reflectivity of the sheet and the type of the sheet.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The method of forming an image according to claim 16, wherein the detecting device is configured to determine the type of the sheet by comparing the reflectivity of the sheet and the stored relationship.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The method of forming an image according to claim 17, wherein the detecting device is configured to determine that the type of the sheet is at least one of a coated sheet, a film sheet, and a recycled sheet.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The method of forming an image according to claim 3, wherein the detection device is configured to indicate that the type of the sheet does not correspond to a desired type of the sheet.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The method of forming an image according to claim 4, wherein the detection device is configured to calculate a reflectivity of the sheet from the detected amount of light reflected by the surface of the sheet.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The method of forming an image according to claim 20, further comprising:

providing a memory section configured to store a relationship between the reflectivity of the sheet and the type of the sheet.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The method of forming an image according to claim 21, wherein the detecting device is configured to determine the type of the sheet by comparing the reflectivity of the sheet and the stored relationship.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The method of forming an image according to claim 22, wherein the detecting device is configured to determine that the type of the sheet is at least one of a coated sheet, a film sheet, and a recycled sheet.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The method of forming an image according to claim 4, wherein the detection device is configured to indicate that the type of the sheet does not correspond to a desired type of the sheet.